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*Office Memorandum* • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, D/S

DATE: 30 August 1954

FROM : Chief, S/TR

SUBJECT: Use of US Equivalents for Foreign Measurements in Intelligence Production

REF : DD/I Notice 50-100-2 of 19 August 1954.

1. A strict adherence to this order will result in many references and parenthetic remarks to the detriment of both brevity and clarity.

2. If we are to convert kilometers to miles, ~~no~~ difficulties are anticipated. However, to convert rubles per metric ton-kilometer to dollars per short ton mile will be confusing and laborious. It should be mentioned that we do not have a precise internal value of the ruble in dollars. Even the more simple conversions are not conducive of clarity. Example "In 1953 the USSR transported 1,121,000,000 metric tons (1,235,342,000 short tons) an average distance of 748 kilometers (464.78 miles) for a total ton-kilometer performance of 840 billion (575.3 billion short ton miles). It would be more simple to prepare a conversion table for each factor and attach it to each product. Better still have the tables printed and made as part of the outline issued 4 June 1954 by Chief, Economic Research entitled "Comments on the Organization and Preparation of Economic Intelligence Reports."



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